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HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES MILITARY ASSISTANCE COMMAND, VIETNAM
Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff for Operations, J3
Surface Operations Division
APO 96222

PSYOP/POLWAR Newsletter, Volume VI No. 6 31 July 1971

This edition of PSYOP/POLWAR Newsletter is for period 1 June - 31 July 1971. PSYOP/POLWAR Newsletter is now a bi-monthly publication. The next edition will be published 30 September 1971.

1. REDESIGNATION OF PSYOP DIVISION, MACJ3-11.

ON 20 JUNE 1971 MACJ3-11 was incorporated as a branch into the Surface Operations Division, MACJ3-06, with no change in mission. Future correspondence should be addressed to COMUSMACV, ATTN: J3-06 (PSYOP Branch), APO 96222.

2. THE VIETNAMESE NAVY (VNN) POLITICAL WARFARE COMPANY.

TO MEET INCREASING DEMANDS for Political Warfare activities in Navy units and areas along the Republic of Vietnam coast and rivers, the Vietnamese Navy recently formed its first Political Warfare Company. The company, headquartered in Cuu Long near the Saigon Shipyard, will provide specialized POLWAR support for VNN Field Units by utilizing its three specialized platoons (cultural, indoctrination, and PSYWAR/civic action). The objectives of the VNN POLWAR Company are to: maintain and increase morale and combat effectiveness of the VNN; improve the support of the population toward the VNN and GVN; and to destroy the enemy's morale and cause them to Chieu Hoi.

The cultural platoon, which includes singers, dancers, actors, and musicians, gives a performance that is sure to lift the morale of the Navyman. The band plays Vietnamese folk and modern music, and American rock songs if there is a mixed audience. All musicians have been attached to civilian bands in the past, and their musical talents are of the highest caliber. Previously they performed only in the Saigon area where they have been an overwhelming success. Vietnamese Navy men can now look forward to an eye and ear pleasing show on a regular basis.

The indoctrination platoon is primarily concerned with leadership and political training. It also disseminates information on animal husbandry and construction of dependent shelters.

The PSYWAR/civic action platoon visits areas affected by storms, fires, and floods, as well as areas hit by enemy terrorist attacks. As within the PSYWAR/civic action platoon, there are civic action teams assigned to each of the two Vietnamese Navy hospital ships. These teams conduct Medical Civic Action Program/Dental Civic Action Program (MEDCAP/DENTCAP) activities along the coast and rivers. They make loudspeaker broadcasts, distribute posters and pamphlets, and hand out gift packets. Future plans call for additional teams, fully equipped with PSYOP equipment, to be dispatched to areas formerly deprived of a concentrated PSYOP Program.

The POLWAR Company was formed in February 1971, and at present is 40% manned. It is expected to be fully operational by December 1971. (NAVFORV, N-9)

3. NAVY POLWAR ADVISOR'S CONFERENCE

ON 25-26 JUNE 1971 the second quarterly Navy POLWAR Advisor's Conference was held at VNN Headquarters in Saigon. The conferences are designed to discuss mutual problems peculiar to the VNN POLWAR effort. VNN personnel and their dependents are the primary targets of VNN POLWAR.

As a result of this latest conference, the Assistant Chief of Staff for PSYWAR/VNN Welfare (N-9) will recommend that the Vietnamese CNO request Navy representation on the General Political Warfare Department staff.
(ACofS, J3, Surf Ops Div, PSYOP Br)

4. COMBAT DAMAGE CLAIMS.

THE CENTRAL CONSIDERATION COMMITTEE met in June 1971 to consider combat activity claims. One hundred and eighteen of the 212 claims considered were acted on by the committee. The 94 remaining claims were returned to the respective sectors to be settled at sector level.
(ACofS, J3, Surf Ops Div, PSYOP Br)

5. POLWAR BOOST FOR VNN VETERANS

THE U.S. NAVY's PSYWAR/POLWAR effort got a boost this summer when 10 U.S. veterans who have served in Vietnam volunteered to return to Vietnam to participate in a two-month people-to-people type project. On 5 July, the group, representing all branches of the services, began to work on a 20-unit VNN veterans' housing development at the GVN's Vocational Training Center at Cat Lai. The development, designed to permit families to accompany veterans attending training courses, is but one project of the U.S. Navy's operation Helping Hand, a program dedicated to improving the standard of living for VN Navy men and their dependents.

(NAVFORV, N-9)

6. WEEKLY PSYOP BRIEFING.

A WEEKLY PSYOP BRIEFING is presented in the MACV Command Operations Center (COC) each Tuesday. This is an excellent opportunity to inform the Headquarters staff of significant PSYOP operations and their results. PSYOP personnel are encouraged to provide significant topics for the briefing by forwarding items to MACV J3-06 (ATTN: PSYOP Branch). Inputs are needed at MACJ3-06 by Saturday each week.

(ACofS, J3, Surf Ops Div, PSYOP Br)

7. POLWAR GUIDANCES #513 AND #514.

POLWAR GUIDANCES #513 and #514 have been published by GPWD. Number 513 launched the NGUYEN TRAI IV project and denotes the goals of that campaign. Number 514 reports on the failure of the Communist's '71' Summer Campaign and cited the reasons as being increased RVNAF capabilities and lowered enemy morale.

(ACofS, J3, Surf Ops Div, PSYOP Br)

8. MONTHLY FIELD PROGRAM REPORTS (RCS MACCORDS 53. CR 2).

MONTHLY FIELD PROGRAM Reports are being received with no indication as to the originating province. Province PSYOP Advisors (PPA's) and PSYOP POLWAR/Civic Action/VN Information Service/Advisors (PPCVA's) are requested to insure that the province name and date appears on the front sheet of these reports. (ACofS, Surf Ops Div, PSYOP Br)

9. MACV DIRECTIVES 525-200 SERIES.

THE FOLLOWING MACV 525-200 series directives have recently been rescinded: 525-205, 212, 217, and 222.

(ACofS, J3, Surf Ops Div, PSYOP Br)

10. MALAYSIAN OFFICERS TO RECEIVE POLWAR TRAINING IN RVN.

IN JULY 1971, two Malaysian army officers began approximately ten weeks of training in political warfare. The instructions are given by the General Political Warfare Department (GPWD), JGS, RVNAF.

(ACofS, J3, Surf Ops Div, PSYOP Br)

11. AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADOR BRIEFED ON POLWAR.

MACV POLWAR advisors briefed His Excellency, Mr. A.M. Morris, OBE, Australian Ambassador to Vietnam, at Free World Headquarters in Saigon. The Australian Force Vietnam Chief of Staff and several other Australian staff officers attended. The briefing covered the purpose, scope, and progress of RVNAF political warfare.

(ACofS, J3, Surf Ops Div, PSYOP Br)

12. EQUIPMENT FOR RF/PF POLWAR COMPANIES

THE MACV LOGISTICS ADVISORS have taken actions to request expedited delivery from CONUS of equipment for ARVN requirements. Priority of issue of this equipment, upon receipt in-country, will be determined by Central Logistics Command. They have stated that they will expedite delivery to POLWAR Companies upon receipt of emergency request through ARVN supply channels. The supply system is ARVN run and controlled. POLWAR Advisors at MR, Province, and Special Zone should make sure that the POLWAR Company Commanders have properly requisitioned shortages of authorized equipment through ARVN supply channels and that all requisitions over 60 days are properly followed up. Shortages of equipment must be requisitioned on a QD 104 even though they are authorized by TOE. Requisitions for Signal Equipment must be accompanied by complete justification

(ACofS, J3, Surf Ops Div, PSYOP Br)

13. NEW ROCMAGV COMMANDER

LTG Chiang, Hsien-Siang, Republic of China Air Force arrived in Saigon on 1 July 1971 to assume duties as Commander Republic of China Military Advisory Group, Vietnam (ROCMAGV). General

Chiang formerly served as Deputy Chief of the General Political Warfare Department, Republic of China. He has extensive experience in Political Warfare and his contribution will be of great value.

(ACofS, J3, Surf Ops Div, PSYOP Br)

14. ARMED FORCES DAY PARADE

THE FIRST ARMED FORCES DAY PARADE since 1967 was held in Saigon on 19 June 1971. Units from every component service participated in the parade. The reviewing party was composed of high ranking civilian and military dignitaries which included President Thieu, Vice President Ky, and General Abrams, COMUSMACV. The parade was conducted without incident and can be considered a resounding success. Additionally, it greatly enhanced the image of the RVNAF to the people.

(ACofS, J3, Surf Ops Div, PSYOP Br)

15. NATIONAL RADIO NETWORK

THE NATIONAL RADIO NETWORK (Channel B) with transmitter sites at Danang, Qui Nhon, Nha Trang, and Saigon will be ready to go on the air by mid-October. Saigon is awaiting installation of a 100 Kw transmitter. The major problem concerning the three up-country sites is lack of personnel. Recently, however, the Ministry of National Defense has granted approval for assigning 34 personnel to man the sites.

(ACofS, J3, Surf Ops Div, PSYOP Br)

16. PSYOP ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF PHUNG HOANG

- a. Military Region 1: MR 1 is increasing the use of radio PSYOP messages in support of the PHUNG HOANG Program.

Quang Tri Province (MR 1): The Armed Propaganda Teams (APT's) are at present a part of the District Intelligence and Operations Coordination Center (DIOCC). The communication gap that existed between the APT, Regional Forces (RF)/Popular Forces (PF) and Revolutionary Development (RD) Cadre has improved considerably this month. People's Information activities consisted mainly of publicizing the GVN elections and the

PHUNG HOANG Program. Explanations of the PHUNG HOANG Program were carried out by face-to-face communication in study sessions and visits to family groups. For the first time, VIS attempted to conduct a program strictly through Vietnamese channels, by making up poster layouts and sending them to Danang to be printed. MR 1, Vietnamese Information Service (VIS) in Danang was unable to print the wanted posters because of scarcity of printing press time. Liaison efforts by the PHUNG HOANG Directorate and positive actions by the Senior PHUNG HOANG Advisor MR 1, have now resulted in the VIS in Danang agreeing to print wanted posters on ten VCI per month.

Thua Thien Province (MR 1): RD and VIS cadre have agreed to cooperate in the information program using existing drama teams and the VIS movie teams to attract popular interest. There will be joint RD/VIS cadre teams to visit families and interfamilies.

Quang Nam Province (MR 1): The People's Information Committee which began weekly meetings for the purpose of planning weekly theme emphasis, selected PHUNG HOANG as a major theme. VIS cadre stepped up efforts, particularly in the rural areas, to explain the objective for the PHUNG HOANG Program. In Kieu Nhon District PHUNG HOANG MEDCAP Programs were conducted at the Zuyen Long Refugee Camp and Than An Hamlet on 12 May. A program has been initiated to broadcast the names of VCI over the local radio station. VCI wanted posters prepared by the Province Intelligence and Operations Coordination Center (PIOCC) have been sent to JUSPAO for reproduction. A week long operation in Kien Ban by APT to induce ralliers and alert the people to the sinister purpose of the VCI appeared to have confused and angered the enemy. Later, the police reported that enemy agents were questioning civilians about the presence of the APT unit and were seeking to destroy signs and propaganda material posted by the APT. A similar operation is now going on in Que Son District. A recently captured document indicated the VCI feels the GVN has succeeded in its Chieu Hoi activities. Responding to the territorial forces victory over the NVA at the Tra Kien religious festival in Duy Xuyen District, the VIS prepared

radio broadcasts, posters, an exhibit of captured weapons, photos and captured documents, all emphasizing the overwhelming success of the RF/PF in protecting the civilians. The exhibit attracted large crowds, and included a captured document which indicated the enemy intention to kill 2,000 civilians. The document was displayed in population centers such as Hoi An, Dien Ban and Hoa Vang. Similar captured documents when properly publicized will encourage the public to give PHUNG HOANG Centers information on the VCI.

Quang Ngai Province (MR 1): The names and biographic data of selected VCI will continue to be broadcast over the Quang Ngai radio station and will be contained in leaflets printed by VIS. The PIOCC also prepared wanted posters which were submitted to JUSPAO for reproduction.

- b. Military Region 2: Emphasis for deploying Chieu Hoi Armed Propaganda Teams (APT's) under full control of the District Intelligence Operations Coordination Center (DIOCC) bodes well for increasing the effectiveness of the Chieu Hoi Program. PSYOP/People's information assets showed increased activity during June; however, the PHUNG HOANG Program is not getting the support desired. There are no US PSYOP printing assets in MR 2 and the 20th POLWAR Bn has an average of only one press operating in Pleiku for all PSYOP printing in the region. Consequently local production of printed media on the M-85 press assigned to each province has been advised. Company B, 8th PSYOP Bn has terminated operations at Pleiku.

Ninh Thuan Province (MR 2): APT's serving under the DIOCC's operational control have been introduced into An Phuoc, Buu Son, and Thanh Hai districts. In the first week of operations in An Phuoc District, the APT's visited three hamlets and convinced eight families with members in the VC to write letters to their relatives urging them to Chieu Hoi. The target areas for APT's are those hamlets south of Phan Rang City, where the VC have been particularly active in the past month.

Phu Bon Province (MR 2): An increase in enemy terrorist activities and propaganda resulted in the following action by the People's Information Committee. A province-wide PSYOP campaign designed to exploit these activities was planned and specific areas of responsibility were assigned. This campaign commenced on

24 June with mass demonstrations throughout the province, and has been receiving unusually good support from all GVN agencies, as well as religious and student groups.

- c. Military Region 3: A wanted poster metal plate was prepared for both Long An and Binh Long Provinces. Forty-four additional photos were submitted to the Combined Psychological Operations Center for preparation of wanted poster metal plates.

Hau Nghia Province (MR 3): Province VIS technicians produced 2,000 copies of a locally developed PHUNG HOANG "mini booklet". On 24 June the S-5 (PSYWAR) unit and VIS printed 1500 news bulletins describing the neutralization in Duc Lap Village on 23 June of four important VCI (including a Deputy District Secretary). The psychological impact of this operation was exploited with the theme that villagers should induce their VCI/VC relatives to rally. Over 500 pieces of printed material were handed out during "country fair rallies" by the Trang Bang VIS. The Sector S-5 (PSYWAR) has increased the use of loudspeaker trucks during cordon and search operations. Captured documents indicate that there is friction between NVN personnel (referred to as "newcomers"), and the SVN/VCI members. In one instance in Tan My Village, this friction resulted in the village infrastructure refusing to provide food to the local force company.

Long An Province (MR 3): Participation by VIS personnel in Village/Hamlet activities is increasing. District Chiefs are spending more evenings in the villages and using VIS cadre as the Master of Ceremonies in programs to the people. During these programs VIS often informs the people about PHUNG HOANG, the CD/LD Plan for the village, the daily news, and calls for VC/VCI to rally.

- d. Military Region 4: The shortage of paper in MR 4 continues to be a problem, limiting the printing of wanted posters on properly confirmed VCI. However, MR 4's substitute expedient of publicly exposing VCI through the use of permanent PHUNG HOANG VCI exposure billboards in every village has had good results. The procedure of crossing off or lining through a VCI name on the bulletin boards, after he has been neutralized, appears to be one of the strongest of all PSYOP campaign themes. This has been effective in influencing villagers to report information on the VCI.

Kien Tuong Province (MR 4): A new VIS Chief has been aggressively pursuing the achievement of goals set forth in the 1971 CD/LD Plan. Bulletin boards now line Highway 29 and convey messages concerning PHUNG HOANG, taxation, drugs, rural development, and nationalism. These bulletin boards were built at village expense and painted with VIS-funded paint.

Dinh Tuong Province (MR 4): In an excellent and effective application of the People's Information concept, the Province Chief recently began a series of overnight village visits, accompanied by a province-level delegation of service chiefs and cadres, a MEDCAP team and a Rural Development Cadre (RDC) drama team. In preparation for the occasion, VIS and POLWAR personnel circulate throughout the village to pass out literature, announce the MEDCAP and invite people to attend the evening meeting. The Province Chief, District Chief, and service chiefs, speak about various priority programs, particularly PHUNG HOANG, the People's Self Defense Force, Rural Development, and Land Reform. The officials then make themselves available for questions concerning the local situation and for hearing any complaints the villagers might have. The delegation then circulates through the village to talk to the people. The evening ends with an RDC drama performance followed by the showing of a VIS film.

Chau Doc Province (MR 4): VIS continued to concentrate on exposing VCI and inducing them to rally. At the villages of Vinh Gia and Thoi Son, in Tinh Bien District, a combined APT-POLWAR-VIS team saturated the area with VCI and PHUNG HOANG information. Posters and cassette-tape broadcasts identifying local VCI were used. Also face-to-face encounters with People's Self Defense Forces (PSDF), village officials, and families known to have relatives in the VC were effective. A Vietnamese medic ran a medcap at the same time. Using local VIS cadre, helicopter APT broadcasts and a Vietnamese medic, the information program increased the tempo of PSYOP activity in the pan-handle of the province. Thirty-eight new PHUNG HOANG boards to expose VCI were completed and in place by the end of the month. Four of the named VCI were neutralized. VIS prepared projector slides of VCI wanted lists for screening at commercial cinemas; and wanted lists were read aloud in theaters.

Phong Dinh Province (MR 4): Although all known and properly identified VCI had been exposed, the districts re-screened their intelligence files for additional biographic data on identified VCI. As a result of this information several new posters have been developed. Funds for construction of thirty-one VCI exposure billboards were obtained and these billboards are presently under construction. 100,000 PHUNG HOANG cartoon books were distributed and coordinated leaflet drops/aerial broadcasts with APT operations continued. After one leaflet drop a squad leader of the D-17 Regiment rallied to Sector Headquarters with a leaflet in his hand. Several ralliers have stated that the locally-produced exposure poster was a major factor in their decisions to rally. Progress has been significant in the improvement of coordination and use of the APT by the PHUNG HOANG Program and village/hamlet officials in the neutralization of VCI. Forty percent of the Hoi Chanh for June are credited to the APT operations.

Bac Lieu Province (MR 4): The Chieu Hoi Chief has continued to place emphasis on APT operations, spending a total of 15 days in the field. During this time, they conducted face-to-face communications with 143 families, (79 of which were VC related) and contacted 21 former Hoi Chanh. Village Intelligence and Operations Coordination Center (VIOCC) officials were encouraged to exploit the intelligence gathering potential of Hoi Chanh who had resettled in their respective area, as well as the RD Cadre and APT's. After a seminar conducted by a mobile information team in Long Dien Village, Gia Rao District, several VC/VCI families informed the team that they would try to induce their relatives to rally. Several days later, six VC rallied to the GVN at the village headquarters. In this same district, VCI wanted lists, painted on poster boards, are attracting more attention than the conventional wanted posters. Shortages of VIS personnel at district and hamlet level continues to be a problem. Only 34% of authorized strength is available at district and 75% at hamlet level. Newly pacified areas, where VIS cadre are most needed, are without cadre. A possible source of cadre would be the personnel being released from the APT Program.

Overview Comment: The PHUNG HOANG Program is the number one National Goal of the People's Information Priorities for 1971. The Community Defense and Local Development Plan, in Annex II, Appendix B, paragraph I, B, (People's Information Priorities) states:

"1. PHUNG HOANG. People's Information has a vital role to play in supporting the PHUNG HOANG goal of 100% exposure of all properly confirmed VCI during the first six months of the 1971 Plan. It is the most important task of the People's Information Program in this period, and the Ministry of Information will allocate its resources accordingly."

(ACofS, CORDS, Phung Hoang Directorate)

